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Hebrew media outlets are censoring their own reports containing evidence the Israeli army targeted its own soldiers and civilians with tanks and Apache helicopters during the 7 October Hamas attack.

News Desk

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An Israeli man beside houses destroyed during fighting with Hamas militants in Kibbutz Be'eri, Israel, on Sunday. (Photo credit: Kobi Wolf/Bloomberg)

Military censors are deleting details from Israeli media reports showing that Israeli forces killed many of their own soldiers and civilians during the Hamas attack on 7 October in which 1,200 Israelis were killed.

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Israel claims that Hamas massacred all 1,200 Israeli soldiers and civilians during its surprise attack on settlements surrounding Gaza. Hamas also took some 240 Israelis captive back to Gaza.

But recent reports have shown that many of the Israelis killed during the attack were killed by Israeli forces themselves.

Rather than negotiate with Hamas fighters who had **barricaded** themselves inside homes with Israeli captives in numerous settlements surrounding Gaza, Israeli forces used tank fire to destroy the homes, killing everyone inside.

As Hamas fighters and Palestinian looters were taking captives back across the Gaza border in cars and on foot, Israeli forces **used** Apache helicopters to gun them down.

This was further confirmed in a **report** from the liberal Israeli daily, *Haaretz* on 18 November. *Haaretz* reported that according to an investigation by Israeli police, Apache helicopters had opened fire at both Hamas fighters and Israelis at the Nova festival.

Previous Hebrew media **reports** indicate Israel helicopter pilots had difficulty distinguishing between Hamas fighters and other Palestinians who breached the Gaza border and entered Israel on the one hand, and the Israelis they sought to take captive back to Gaza, on the other.

However, the *Haaretz* report has now been edited to omit the admission that Apache helicopters targeted the music festival.

The following passage has now been removed:

"The terrorists intended to reach Kibbutz Reim and nearby kibbutzim. According to a police source, an investigation into the incident also revealed that an IDF combat helicopter that arrived at the scene from the Ramat David base fired at the terrorists and apparently also hit some of the revelers who were there. According to the police, 364 people were killed at the festival."

An **archived** version of the original article from 18 November shows the omitted passage, while the **current** report on the *Haaretz* site does not.

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"Israel admits it killed its own at Nova music festival," a Nov. 19th headline from [@TheCradleMedia](#) reports:

'A police investigation shows Israeli Apache helicopters opened fire on attendees of the Nova music festival during the 7 October Hamas attack.'

new.thecradle.co/articles/israeli-hamas-attack.....

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Here's the original Haaretz article from Nov. 18th BEFORE it was scrubbed of any mention of this investigation or reports that the IDF killed its own.

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Israeli law mandates journalists submit any article to the military censor before publication if it discusses security issues. This requirement also results in significant self-censorship among Israeli journalists and news outlets.

According to a freedom of information act filed by the *972 Magazine*, in 2022 the Israeli military censor **blocked** the publication of 159 articles across various Israeli media outlets, and censored parts of a further 990.

Israel does not acknowledge the Apache helicopters targeted the Nova concert, and instead claims that Hamas fighters deliberately massacred 260 Israelis at the Nova site early in the morning of 7 October as part of its broader attack on Israeli military bases and settlements.

The narrative that Hamas carried out “ISIS-style” atrocities, including unsubstantiated claims that its fighters raped women and their dead corpses, beheaded babies, and even baked a baby alive in an oven, have been used by Israeli leaders to justify the ongoing bombing of Gaza, which many view as a genocide.

But now it is unclear how many Israeli civilians were killed by Hamas as initially thought, and how many were killed by Israel, as its military unleashed overwhelming firepower in response to the Hamas operation.

The first indication to emerge that Israeli forces targeted their own came from an Israeli woman, 44-year-old Yasmin Porat, who survived the Hamas assault on the Be’eri kibbutz near Gaza on 7 October.

According to the Israeli military, Hamas massacred 112 of the kibbutz's residents during the attack.

However, as *The Electronic Intifada* [reported](#), Porat stated in a radio interview on Israeli state broadcaster *Kan* that Israeli civilians were killed by their own security forces in Be'eri, not by Hamas fighters.

In the 15 October [interview](#), Porat stated the civilians were killed when Israeli forces engaged in fierce gun battles with Hamas fighters who had taken residents of the kibbutz hostage. She said Israeli forces fired indiscriminately at both the fighters and their Israeli captives.

Porat said she and 11 other hostages were held for several hours in one house, guarded by 40 Hamas fighters. She said that the fighters treated them "humanely" and "their objective was to kidnap us to Gaza. Not to murder us."

However, when Israeli forces arrived hours later, they surrounded the house and started a gun battle with the Hamas fighters in which four or five hostages were killed. Porat saw their bodies lying on the lawn outside the house, and according to her, Israeli forces "undoubtedly" killed them.

"They eliminated everyone, including the hostages," the mother of three, told *Kan*. "There was very, very heavy crossfire."

A Hamas fighter seeking to surrender then exited the house using Porat as a human shield. The fighter was detained and Porat freed.

However, Porat explains further that the "insane crossfire," then continued, and the Israeli military shot two tank shells into the house where the remaining 11 hostages were being held. "It's a small kibbutz house, nothing big. You saw it on the news. Not a large place. And at that moment everyone was killed," except two of the hostages.

However, Porat's testimony has also apparently been censored.

Her interview is not included in the [online version](#) of the *Haboker Hazeh* ("This Morning") radio program for 15

October, the episode in which it initially aired on *Kan*.

Porat also gave her account to the Israeli newspaper *Maariv*. However, the *Maariv* story, **published** on 9 October, makes no specific mention of civilians being killed by Israeli forces.

In another **interview** Porat gave to CNN, she mentions that both her Hamas captors and fellow hostages were killed, but there is no mention of who killed the hostages.

This suggests a formal government effort to censure details of Porat's testimony.

Revealing that Israeli forces killed their own civilians and soldiers on 7 October is now viewed as supporting Hamas and promoting conspiracy theories.

The *Electronic Intifada* **observed** that at least one Hebrew-language account posted part of Porat's *Kan* interview on Twitter, now officially called X, on the day it was released and accused *Kan* of functioning as "media in the service of Hamas."

Three days later, on 18 October, *Yedioth Achronoth* **published** a report indicating that Israelis making claims such as those made by Porat would result in prosecution. The report explained that Israelis who "echo conspiracy theories of Hamas and Iran," regarding events on 7 October "are expected to soon find themselves in the interrogation rooms of the police."

"We will reach out to anyone who tries to harm the public's peace and security, among other things, by publishing news of this kind or theories of this kind and another that the enemy is trying to echo in Israeli society," Deputy Superintendent Dror Asraf, head of the intelligence division of the Israel Police, stated.

Israel Gaza Strip Hannibal Directive

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